

**From:** Devon Kellogg <devonkellogg@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 14, 2022 4:19 PM  
**To:** DES SBCC  
**Subject:** Washington SBCC Residential Energy Code Testimony  
**Attachments:** [Washington SBCC Residential Testimony.pdf](#)

External Email

Greetings Councilmembers,

I'm providing a written copy of my verbal testimony presented today in favor of the heat pump and range ventilation requirements.

I would like to add for those concerned about the grid, heat pumps require less energy than standard A/C units, which are now a basic necessity in our warming climate.

Also, newer load balancing technologies are becoming available, such as smart panels and grids, that make these rapid upgrades fully feasible. A lot of the other concerns are addressed through the Inflation Reduction Act, the Infrastructure Bill, and the Defense Production Act.

As I said in my closing (below), "We can overcome technological challenges much more easily than we can overcome the increasing health and cost impacts of climate chaos!"

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**Testimony on Proposed Washington State Energy Code – Residential  
10/14/22**

Hello council members, my name is Devon Kellogg. Thank you for listening to my testimony today in favor of the heat pump and range ventilation proposals.

As a parent and a teacher, I echo the feelings (and lyrics) of previous speakers championing this amazing opportunity to address our climate crisis, but I'd like to add testimony on a practical matter of cost and health. I'd like to describe for you what life is like as an asthma-sufferer on a budget in an older, gas-serviced home without A/C.

During our now standard summer heat waves, my family and I rely on opening the windows during cooking and at night to cool off and ventilate our home. Faced with increasingly warm nights and smoke from fires, our home becomes intolerable to live in. Add a gas stove in the mix, and the indoor air becomes toxic – and I suspect how I ended up with asthma in the first place. It gets so bad at times, that my hands and feet swell up and my breathing becomes labored just walking through my own home.

In the winters, when our methane furnace kicks on, my asthma again goes into overdrive adding lost wages and healthcare costs onto my already limited budget. Plus the price of gas heating increases our monthly utility bill to 4 times the summer rate.

The cost of standardizing heat pump and fan installations in new construction is negligible compared to the cost to folks like me who are now faced with expensive upgrades just to protect my family's basic health needs. Condo owners and renters have even less options.

These proposals would not only improve health outcomes and reduce monthly bills for homeowners, they would also help stabilize the skyrocketing insurance and home repair costs resulting from the increasingly harmful effects (fires, storms, floods) of putting heat-trapping gases in our atmosphere.

The code proposals help address these health and cost concerns and are necessary to prevent more harmful warming effects. We can overcome any technological challenges much more easily than we can overcome the increasing health and cost impacts of climate chaos!

Please vote to adopt!

Thank you.

## Testimony on Proposed Washington State Energy Code – Residential 10/14/22

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